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December 30, 2003

Dr. Mark McClellan
Commissioner of the FDA
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Dr. McClellan:

I want to urge you not to approve over-the-counter use of emergency contraception. As a board certified obstetrician-gynecologist, it is my opinion that access to this medication without prescription will result in great harm to the young women in our country. Access to post-coital contraception without a prescription from a physician is poor medicine. Not only will it likely result in more sexual promiscuity among teens in America, but with over-the-counter access to this medication, these young women will be more likely to not see a physician for yearly pap tests and STD screening. This would be a great disservice to the women in America. Over the counter access to emergency contraception will be a very harmful public health policy. I urge you to keep emergency contraception as a prescription medication, for the sake of the health of the women in this country.

Sincerely,



Christina A. Cirucci, MD, FACOG

cc:

Ralph Hale MD, ACOG Exec VP
John Gibbons, MD, ACOG President
The Honorable Richard Santorum, US Senator (PA)
The Honorable Arlen Specter, US Senator (PA)
The Honorable Melissa Hart, US Representative (PA)

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